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NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

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State Climatologist

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STATE PUBLICATIONS

Offices: 226 and 322
Mackay Science
(702) 784-1723
(702) 784-6995

John W. James
State Climatologist
Mackay Science Hall
University of Nevada-Reno
Reno, Nevada 89557

SYNOPSIS

October was wetter than normal in most of the Northern two-thirds of Nevada, with temperatures averaging within a couple of degrees of normal over much of the Silver State. In the extreme Western portion of the State this was another warm 10th month, as six of the last seven Octobers have averaged well above normal. Only October 1989 was cooler than usual. October 1993 ranks in the ten warmest in Reno (4 degrees above normal), where records began 106 years ago.

TEMPERATURE

The warmth in the West was more than offset by a cool area that covered much of East Central Nevada, where temperatures averaged between 2 and 3 degrees below normal. The Southern one-third of the State was about normal.

Extreme high temperatures reached over 100 degrees early in the month, with 104 at Cottonwood Cove and at Amargosa Valley. This was still 5 degrees below the State October record set at Cottonwood Cove 13 years ago.

The lowest readings were from Elko County where Charleston reached zero near months end, with Pine Valley at +5 and Boies Ranch +7. Mountain City recorded the State October low of -10 in 1970.

PRECIPITATION

Extreme Western portions of Nevada had one and a half to three times normal precipitation with storminess that ended a 105 consecutive day dry spell. This was the third longest dry period in 106 years of record. More than one and a half times normal precipitation also fell in parts of the Northern quarter of the State, and in East Central Nevada where Great Basin National Park had 2.95", or about two and a half times the normal for October. Several inches of snow fell above the 9000-10,000 foot level on 13,000 foot Wheeler Peak. At Reno it was one of the wettest Octobers on record with 1.42" or about three and a half times normal. Other wet locations were Little Valley and Tahoe Meadows, both near Reno, with 4.10" and 3.85", respectively. In addition, Verdi Peak had 2.44", Incline 2.37", Glenbrook 2.22", IL Ranch 1.99", Daggett Pass and Ruby Lake 1.93", and 3" of snow at the former site, and 1.89" at Shoshone.

Southern Nevada had little or no precipitation this month, with zero for example, at Boulder City, Laughlin, the Desert NWR, and Las Vegas Spring Valley.

SUN, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were below normal Statewide, ranging from only slightly below in the South to well below in the Far West. For example, Las Vegas had 85% of the possible hours and a normal of 87%, while Reno had only 68% versus a normal of 84%.

Wind averages were near normal in the South, but below normal elsewhere. No really strong gusts were recorded. The highest reported was at Gary Rinaudo's downtown Winnemucca location, with 47mph on the 5th, and blowing dust, as part of a thunderstorm downburst. The Smoky Valley NDOT station at Carvers had 44mph the same day.

Evaporation was below normal this month, with 7.86" at Boulder City, 7.55" at Overton, and 6.26" at Pahrump topping the list. Other readings were 2.83" at Beowawe, 2.76" at Honey Lake Fleming, 2.64" at Shoshone, 2.09" at Fallon (about half of normal), and 1.26" at Minden.

ADDENDA TO SEPTEMBER 1993 SUMMARY

Final data totals indicate that the wettest reporting location in Nevada for the 1992-93 Water Year was the Kyle Canyon State Forestry Station on Mt. Charleston, where 42.64" fell. This was about twice normal.

NOTE 1 Many thanks to Robert Karstaedt for his years of volunteer weather observing and recording at Jarbidge. He and his wife Doris, have moved into town in Idaho. Penn Fisher will take over as the Jarbidge Climate Observer.

NOTE 2 Over 150 observers in Nevada volunteer their time recording daily temperature and precipitation data for the National Weather Service and the Nevada State Climate Office. This is just a part of the over 18,000 persons that do the same in the United States. Without their interest and efforts we would know little about the climate of the States. Beginning with this issue, we will recognize these volunteers by county. Our thanks and appreciation go to each of them.

CARSON COUNTY:

Carson City- Carson City Fire Department, Stewart St.

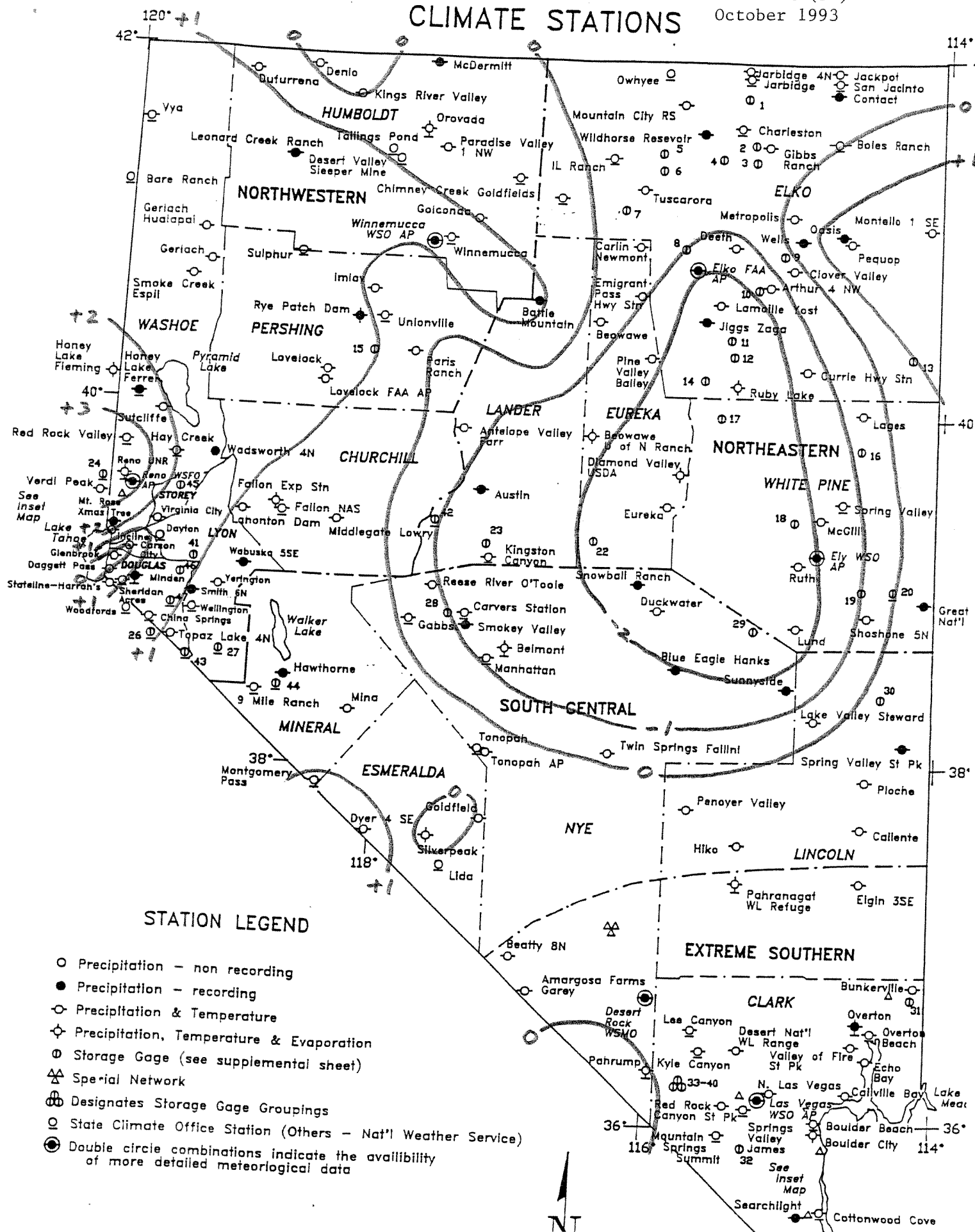
CHURCHILL COUNTY:

Fallon Experiment Station- University of Nevada
Fallon Naval Air Station- Naval Oceanography Command Detachment
Lahontan Dam- Nevada State Parks
Middlegate- Francine Lowery

November's warmest? 98 degrees at Mesquite on November 3, 1944.
November's coldest? - 30 degrees at Charleston on November 25, 1992.

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Departure of Mean Temperature
From Normal (F°)
October 1993



Percentage of Normal
Precipitation
October 1993

